Clinical Haemaology have been started in the institute besides other teaching and other research activities of the Institute. A large number of patients from all over the country including the neighbouring countries come to the AIIMS Hospital for treatment. The Institute is making all efforts to increase the facilities to cater to the needs of the public.

Donation of Organs

†61. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that people hesitate to come forward for donating their organs due to lack of awareness and prevailing apprehensions and doubts while donation of organs could save millions of lives every year;

(b) if so, whether Government have formulated any plan to encourage people to come forward for donating their organs; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, the transplantation of human organs requires tissue and organ matching to ensure acceptance of the organ transplanted into the body of the recipient. The Transplantation of Human Organ Act, 1994 restricts removal of transplantable organs from live donors to near relatives only. However, in cases of transplantation involving non-related donors permission of an Authorisation Committee duly constitute by a Gazette notification of the Central Government/State Government concerned including those declared brain stem dead is necessary. The Committee may on receipt of a joint application made by the live donor and the recipient made for reasons of affection in the manner prescribed in the said Act, after it has satisfied itself about such reasons in order to rule out commercial dealings in human organs, grant such permission. In so far as removal of organs harvested from dead bodies, including those declared brain stem dead is concerned the Act stipulates that it could be done only if the deceased from whose

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

body such an organ is to be removed had authorised such removal before his death. In cases where removal was not authorised by the deceased such removal could be authorised with consent or the near relatives of the deceased. In cases of unclaimed dead bodies such removal may be authorised by the Registered Medical Practitioner to whom the body has been sent for post mortem/ inquest. In case of removal from brain stem dead bodies, such death has to be certified by a duly constituted committee under the Act. Except in case of brain stem dead persons, vital organs such as heart, liver, kidney, etc., cease to function and are not transplantable. In case of removal of eyes, however, whose removal, after death only, can be authorised by the deceased before his death, awareness campaigns for encouraging people are duly carried in an ongoing and continuous manner. Government have also established an Organ Retrieval and Banking Organisation at AIIMS, New Delhi.This Organisation through their website www.orbo.org and various functions such as lectures, seminars, symposia etc. educates the people to come forward for donating their organs. In addition, there are many NGOs helping the Government in this cause.

Fake drugs

62. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that onus of fake drugs lies with the genuine manufacturers of medicines to prove that it is not their product; and *i*

(b) if so, the action proposed to amend the law for severe punishment against the spurious drug manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and rules made thereunder, fake drug is an imitation of another drug resembling in respect of packing and labelling to deceive the consumer that it is a genuine product. In order to take legal action against the manufacturers or seller of fake drugs and help court to award punishment to the offender, the manufacturer of genuine product is required to give evidence that the product in question was not manufactured by him.